



Bureau of Land Management
High Desert District
Pinedale Field Office

PFO Cultural Resource Site Monitoring Project

This project is intended to provide an annual proactive program to monitor and formally document impacts to cultural resource sites that have been identified as both significant and at risk within the BLM-PFO district. Through the implementation of this plan, identified cultural resources will be monitored for various types of adverse impacts with the intent to develop site specific plans to mitigate or eliminate the impacts altogether. Known impacts common to most, if not all sites, include artifact collection and erosion. This project is intended to help fulfill BLM statutory obligations under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (Public Law 89-665; 80 Stat. 915; 16 U.S.C. 470) to "...assume responsibility for the preservation of historic properties which are owned or controlled by such agency". This requirement is also detailed as a BLM-PFO management goal and objective in the 2008 Pinedale Resource Management Plan (RMP) Record of Decision (ROD).

Table 1 lists cultural resources within the BLM-PFO that have been identified as both significant and at risk to on-going adverse impacts from a variety of sources. Additional significant cultural resources identified as at risk will be added to the list as appropriate. If the on-going monitoring documents that a cultural resource site is not receiving significant adverse impacts, sites may be downgraded to a lower monitoring priority or eliminated from this monitoring plan altogether.

Site Name	Smithsonian #'s	Known Impacts	Monitoring Program
Holden Hill	48LN300	vandalism	
Wardell Buffalo Trap	48SU301		
Calpet Rock Shelter	48SU354		
Trapper's Point Site	48SU350/1062	OHV,	
Ruby Butte			
Lander Road	48SU2019	NSO encroachment	
The Meridan Site	48SU1751		
New Fork House Pit Site	48SU4479	O&G	
Upper Bird Canyon Rock Art Site			
The Mahogany Site			
Vlcek Archaeological District	48SU4000	O&G,	
Mesa Stone Circle Site			
Sommers Ranch Rock Alignment Complex			
Aspen Ridge	48SU285		
Dry Piney Burial			
Blue Rim Paleontology Area	N/A		
Ross Butte	48SU641		
Steward Point			
Green River Drift Trail			
Two Buttes			
Boulder Lake Archaeological Complex	Not assigned	OHV,	

A calendar schedule of site visitation will be developed to provide an appropriate level of necessary monitoring. Certain site types, such as the lakeside sites surrounding Boulder Lake that not at risk from human caused impacts during periods of high water, will require only specific seasonal visitation. Other sites that enjoy a higher public profile, such as the Wardell Buffalo Trap, will require a more aggressive site monitoring program.

Monitoring Plan

The project will provide an updated Wyoming Cultural Properties Form (WYCPF), if none currently exists. Some cultural resources that exist at a landscape level (Boulder Lake Archaeological Complex) may require multiple seasons of fieldwork to provide the required level of documentation necessary to adequately describe and delineate complex resource areas. Subsequent visits will be documented with either a site update form or a WYCPF continuation sheet. The primary means of assessing these impacts will be through the establishment of photo points to provide a consistent way to photodocument changes to the site over time. Photodocumentation will use high resolution digital photography to obtain and retain the highest quality images of site surface conditions. Physical impacts to the site will also be documented with GPS to map the disturbance area. This updated map information will be included with the updated site forms.

The intent of this plan is to formally document the types and extent of adverse effects occurring on a site-by-site basis with the end goal of developing impact mitigation projects. Below is a list of possible monitoring schedules.

- A- Site is at moderate risk. Visitation twice annually to monitor for an appearance or increase of adverse effects. Site type may not be as vulnerable to surface disturbance (Green River Drift Trail) as other cultural resources (Wardell Buffalo Trap)
- B- Site is at high risk. Visitation once a month during the snowfree months. Possible Law Enforcement (LE) participation. Evaluate for possible site management or stabilization plan.
- C- Site is at imminent risk of destruction. Visitation twice a month during the snowfree months. Probable LE involvement if human caused. Requires the immediate development of either a site management or stabilization plan.

Mitigation Plans

Cultural resources that have been identified as being at eminent risk of destruction will have the highest priority for stabilization or mitigation planning and funding. Site management plans will be developed on a site and impact specific basis as appropriate to the nature of the adverse effects. Funding for site stabilization or mitigation projects will be pursued from a variety of sources including, but not limited to, Jonah Interagency Office (JIO) and/or Pinedale Anticline Project Office (PAPO) mitigation funds, BLM BPS funding, Western Landscape Conservation Initiative funds, The Rocky Mountain Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Units National Network (RM-CESU) and the National Conservation Initiative.